

In the claims:

1-4. (Canceled)

5. (Previously Presented) A computer program product residing on a computer-readable medium and comprising computer-readable, computer-executable instructions for causing a computer to:

analyze a first playback speed history for at least one audio recording recorded by a first speaker and played by a first listener, the first playback speed history being indicative of at least one playback speed associated with the at least one audio recording; and

determine, from the first playback speed history and a current playback speed setting associated with the first speaker, a speed setting for playback of another audio recording recorded by the first speaker to be played by the first listener,

wherein the instructions are configured to cause the computer to determine the speed setting by modifying an adjustment to be made to the current playback speed setting based at least on an average playback speed of audio recordings, other than the another audio recording, by multiple speakers listened to by the first listener.

6-8. (Canceled)

9. (Currently Amended) A computer program product residing on a computer-readable medium and comprising computer-readable, computer-executable instructions for causing a computer to:

analyze a first playback speed history for at least one audio recording recorded by a first speaker and played by a first listener, the playback speed history being indicative of at least one playback speed associated with the at least one audio recording; and

determine from the first playback speed history and a current playback speed setting a speed setting for playback of another audio recording recorded by the first speaker to be played by the first listener,

wherein the instructions are configured to cause the computer to analyze the first playback speed history to determine an indication of a willingness/ or reluctance of the listener to

listen to recordings of the speaker faster than the current playback speed by ignoring a speed setting in the first playback speed history.

10. (Original) The computer program product of claim 9 wherein the instructions are configured to cause the computer to ignore the speed setting in the first playback speed history if the speed setting is at least one of above an absolute threshold, and above a threshold that is dependent upon the current playback speed and is isolated.

11. (Previously Presented) The computer program product of claim 5 wherein the instructions are configured to cause the computer to determine the speed setting by averaging speeds indicated by the first playback speed history.

12. (Previously Presented) The computer program product of claim 5 wherein the speed setting is an initial speed setting for playback.

13. (Previously Presented) The computer program product of claim 5 further comprising instructions for causing the computer to store an indication of the determined speed setting as part of a second playback speed history such that the computer program product can learn from historical speed settings and adapt future speed settings based on the historical speed settings.

14. (Canceled)

15. (Previously Presented) A computer program product residing on a computer-readable medium and comprising computer-readable, computer-executable instructions for causing a computer to:

analyze a first playback speed history for at least one audio recording recorded by a first speaker and played by a first listener, the playback speed history being indicative of at least one playback speed associated with the at least one audio recording; and

determine a speed setting for playback of another audio recording recorded by a second speaker to be played by a second listener,

wherein the speed setting is determined based on at least one of an amount of time spent transcribing by the first listener, a number of transcriptions reviewed by the first listener, and a number of transcriptions of the first speaker reviewed by the first listener.

16-20. (Canceled)

21. (Currently Amended) A device for use in a transcription editing system for editing transcriptions of dictations from speakers by transcriptionists, the device comprising:

an interface configured to receive historical indicia of playback speeds used by the transcriptionists; and

playback speed means, coupled to the interface, for determining and setting a future playback speed for a selected transcriptionist based on a historical playback speed associated with at least one of the transcriptionists, and for sending a future-speed indication of the future playback speed to the interface, the future playback speed determined using a current playback speed setting associated with at least one of the transcriptionists and a speaker;

wherein the historical playback speed is indicative of at least one playback speed associated with a playback speed used by at least one of the transcriptionists, the interface is further configured to convey the future-speed indication from the playback speed means,

wherein the playback speed means analyzes the historical playback speed indicia to determine an indication of a willingness/ or reluctance of the at least one transcriptionist to listen to recordings of a speaker faster than the current playback speed, the indication of willingness/ or reluctance being determined by ignoring a speed setting in the historical playback speed indicia.

22. (Previously Presented) The device of claim 21 wherein the interface is configured to communicate over a network with a database that stores the historical playback indicia to store the future playback speed.

23. (Previously Presented) The device of claim 21 wherein the future playback speed is an initial playback speed.

24. (Canceled)

25. (Previously Presented) A device for use in a transcription editing system for editing transcriptions of dictations from speakers by transcriptionists, the device comprising:
an interface configured to receive historical indicia of playback speeds used by the transcriptionists; and

playback speed means, coupled to the interface, for determining and setting a future playback speed for a selected transcriptionist based on a historical playback speed associated with at least one of the transcriptionists, and for sending a future-speed indication of the future playback speed to the interface;

wherein the historical playback speed is indicative of at least one playback speed associated with a playback speed used by at least one of the transcriptionists, the interface is further configured to convey the future-speed indication from the playback speed means,

wherein the playback speed means is configured to determine the future-speed indication using at least one of an amount of time spent transcribing by a particular transcriptionist, a number of transcriptions reviewed by a the particular transcriptionist, and a number of transcriptions of a particular speaker reviewed by the particular transcriptionist.

26-33. (Canceled)

34. (Currently Amended) A method of determining a transcription audio playback speed, the method comprising:

analyzing a first playback speed history for at least one audio recording recorded by a first speaker and played by a first listener, the playback speed history being indicative of at least one playback speed associated with the at least one audio recording;

determining from the first playback speed history a speed setting for playback of another audio recording recorded by the first speaker to be played by the first listener using a current playback speed setting associated with the first speaker and the first listener; and

determining an indication of willingness/ or reluctance of the first listener to listen to recordings of the first speaker faster than the current playback speed by ignoring a speed setting in the first playback speed history.

35. (original) The method of claim 34 wherein the speed setting is ignored in the first playback speed history if the speed setting is at least one of above an absolute threshold, and above a threshold that is dependent upon the current playback speed and is isolated.

36. (Previously Presented) The method of claim 34 wherein determining the speed setting includes averaging speeds indicated by the first playback speed history.

37. (Previously Presented) The method of claim 34 wherein the speed setting is an initial speed setting for playback.

38. (Previously Presented) The method of claim 34 further comprising storing an indication of the determined speed setting as part of a second playback speed history to learn from historical speed settings and adapt future speed settings based on the historical speed settings.

39. (Canceled)

40. (Previously Presented) A method of determining a transcription audio playback speed, the method comprising:

analyzing a first playback speed history for at least one audio recording recorded by a first speaker and played by a first listener, the playback speed history being indicative of at least one playback speed associated with the at least one audio recording; and

determining from the first playback speed history a speed setting for playback of another audio recording recorded by a second speaker to be played by a second listener,

wherein the speed setting is determined based on at least one factor comprising at least one of an amount of time spent transcribing by the first listener, a number of transcriptions reviewed by the first listener, and a number of transcriptions of the first speaker reviewed by the first listener.

41. (Previously Presented) The computer program product of claim 15 wherein the first speaker is the second speaker.

42. (Previously Presented) The computer program product of claim 15 wherein the first listener is the second listener.

43. (Previously Presented) The computer program product of claim 15 wherein the speed setting is an initial speed setting for playback.

44. (Previously Presented) The computer program product of claim 15 further comprising instructions for causing the computer to store an indication of the determined speed setting as part of a second playback speed history such that the computer program product can learn from historical speed settings and adapt future speed settings based on the historical speed settings.

45. (Previously Presented) The method of claim 34 wherein determining the speed setting includes modifying the adjustment based at least on a second playback history for at least one audio recording recorded by a second speaker and played by the first listener.

46. (Previously Presented) The method of claim 45 wherein the adjustment is modified based on an average playback speed associated with the first listener.

47. (Currently Amended) The method of claim 34 wherein analyzing the first playback speed history includes categorizing the indication into one of a plurality of ranges of willingness/ or reluctance.

48. (Previously Presented) The method of claim 47 wherein determining the speed setting includes determining an adjustment to be made to the current playback speed setting based on with which of the ranges the indication is associated.

49. (Previously Presented) The method of claim 40 wherein the first speaker is the second speaker.

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50. (Previously Presented) The method of claim 40 wherein the first listener is the second listener.